



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/749,281 Confirmation No.
Applicant : Gene R. Anderson et al.
Filed: : December 26, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2827
Examiner : Norris, Jeremy C.

Docket No. : 1613370-0017
Customer No. : 007470

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Melissa McCool

Name

Signature

December 19, 2003

Date

NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references coming to the attention of Applicants or attorneys or agents for Applicants which are or may be material to the examination of the subject application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby invite the Examiner's attention to the reference(s) listed on the accompanying PTO Form SB/08A and SB/08B.

Applicants submit the present information disclosure statement under 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4). The document(s) identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A include documents which are cited in the International Search Report International Application No. PCT/US01/43354 ("the PCT application") of which the above-referenced application is

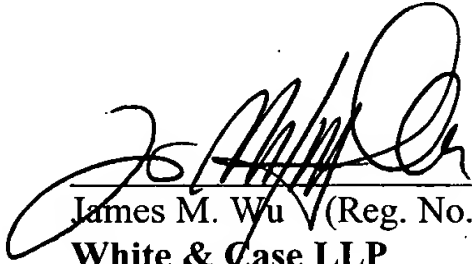
related to U.S. patent application 09/749,282. A copy of the International Search Report ("ISR") is included with this communication.

This submission is understood to complement the results of the Examiner's own independent search. The submission should not be construed as a representation that a search was made, or that the cited items are inclusive of all the relevant and material citations that may be available publicly.

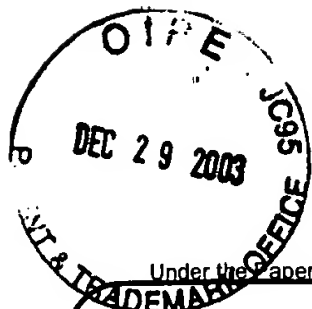
Copies of the cited reference(s) are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the attached references and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

Applicants believe that there is no fee due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge White & Case LLP Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: December 19, 2003



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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/749,281
	Filing Date	December 22, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Gene R. Anderson
	Art Unit	2827
	Examiner Name	Norris, Jeremy C.
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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	James M. Wu (Reg. No. 45,241) White & Case LLP 1155 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036
Signature	
Date	December 19, 2003

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Typed or printed name	Melissa McCool		
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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